

# Home & Garden Education Center



**UConn** | COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE,  
HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
PLANT SCIENCE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  
EXTENSION

## What's Wrong with My Plant? Questions to Answer before You Call Us.

Is your boxwood suddenly brown on one side? For no apparent reason does your hosta have holes? Is your lawn looking lousy? Help us diagnose your plant issue. Before you email, call, or visit us with a sample please take a look at these symptoms and descriptions and tell us what you are seeing. Providing the answers to these questions helps to narrow the field of possibilities during the diagnosis process.



**Name of plant, if known. If not, please be prepared to describe it.**

### Plant Form

- Groundcover
- Tree
- Shrub
- Vine
- Annual or Perennial
- Deciduous or Evergreen
- Does it flower? When? What color?

### Where is the plant located?

- Container
- Flower bed
- Houseplant
- Landscape
- Lawn
- Vegetable bed/garden

### What is the sun exposure?

- Full sun
- Partial shade
- Shade

### Watering frequency?

### Type?

- Drip/soaker
- Hand-held hose/watering can
- Rain
- Sprinkler/overhead
- Other

**Site history**

- Soil pH
- Soil drainage: Good, Moderate, Poor

**Chemical applications (names and dates)**

- Fertilizers
- Fungicides
- Herbicides
- Insecticides

**When was it planted?****Are nearby plants also affected?****Scattered plants or groups?****When did you first notice the symptoms?****Symptoms**

- Abnormal growth
- Browning
- Flagging (reduced growth on one side)
- Frass (insect droppings)
- Holes in leaves
- Insect feeding
- Leaf drop
- Leaf spots
- Rot (fruit, leaves, roots, or stems)
- Stunting
- Tip dieback
- Wilting
- Yellowing
- Other

**Parts affected and what percentage of entire plant**

- Branches
- Entire plant
- Flowers
- Fruits
- Leaves
- New growth
- Roots
- Stems

**Distribution of symptoms of trees and shrubs**

- Inner canopy
- Lower canopy
- Outer canopy
- Upper canopy

**Do you see any insects or signs of feeding damage on the affected plant? Look under leaves, on stems, and on branches or the trunk.**

Despite good cultural practices, pests and diseases at times may appear. Chemical control should be used only after all other methods have failed. For pesticide information or other questions please call toll free: 877-486-6271. UConn Home and Garden Education Center, 2019

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